

doesn't have any lower teeth. This person now felt confident to go out and look for a job.

Rural communities, in particular, face tougher challenges when it comes to getting proper dental care because there are so few dentists, and people often have to drive long distances to see them.

Proper care is vital to our overall health, and I commend the Colorado Mission of Mercy for sponsoring this event.

#### JOBS FOR VETERANS

(Ms. HOCHUL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, I welcome President Obama's announcement that our brave men and women in our Armed Forces serving in Iraq will soon be coming home in time for the holidays. This holiday season, we can expect to see 40,000 people returning to this country, particularly some who are coming back to my Niagara Falls Air Force base, where I look forward to welcoming them warmly.

But as we approach Veterans Day and embrace this group of America's newest veterans, I'm troubled that, in a time of 9.1 percent unemployment and an even higher rate of unemployment for our returning veterans, which approaches 12 percent, we have to ensure that these individuals will have jobs; otherwise, it is a national disgrace.

That is why it's critical that we pass the American Jobs Act. This would create a \$5,600 "Returning Heroes" tax credit for employers who hire veterans, and a \$9,600 tax credit for "Wounded Warriors," again, for employers who hire our veterans with service-connected disabilities. In a country as grateful as ours for their service, we owe them no less. We owe them better. That is why I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the American Jobs Act.

#### BURDENSOME REGULATIONS

(Mrs. LUMMIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, as I traveled my district of Wyoming and visited another district, Nevada, over the last work period, I heard repeatedly from small business people about the burdensome regulations that have been placed on their businesses and ability to hire people and put people back to work by the current administration here in Washington.

So when I returned to Washington, I asked for a copy of all of the *Federal Registers*. Those are all the new regulations that have been printed just in this year alone and implemented by this administration. I now have in my office boxes of regulations that are taller than I am, and we're not even finished with this year. And going back

to the year before and the year before, those regulations have been growing at exponential paces.

If we're going to put Americans back to work, Mr. Speaker, we need to make sure that these rules that are taller than I am, thousands of pages, tens of thousands of pages, are repealed.

#### MAKE IT IN AMERICA

(Ms. TSONGAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, last week I hosted a town hall meeting in Lawrence, Massachusetts, to discuss ways to grow our domestic manufacturing base and promote policies that keep jobs in the United States, not overseas. Participating in this town hall were several major employers who have made the often challenging decision to keep their labor force here in the United States.

Among these employers was New Balance, the last athletic shoemaker to make sneakers from first stitch to final product in the United States, and an employer of more than 800 Massachusetts workers. The success of these types of companies demonstrates that manufacturing jobs can still thrive in the United States, but we need to pursue policies at the Federal level that support their efforts.

House Democrats' Make It In America agenda provides the tax incentives, workforce training, and investment in 21st century education that will help keep the production of goods and services here in the United States.

We can't sit back and allow our manufacturing base to be continually eroded. We must pass the Make It In America agenda.

#### INVESTING IN SMALL BUSINESS

(Mr. WALZ of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, like the last speaker, I had the opportunity last week to visit an American manufacturer, Blue Star Power Systems, a small business in southern Minnesota employing 35 people that manufactures backup generators for schools, hospitals, and businesses.

Doug Fahrforth, the CFO of Blue Star, told me something that made me pause. He said that nowadays his bank will tell him this: We believe in you; we believe in your product; but unless there is no risk, we don't want anything to do with you.

Our economic system relies upon risks that small businesses take, like Blue Star Power, to create innovative products and services which boost our economy and grow our middle class.

Yesterday there was a New York Times story that said banks said they were turning depositors away at the door because the banks have more money than they know what to do

with. I have a couple of ideas what they can do with that money. Invest in Main Street. Invest in businesses like Blue Star Power Systems who create first class products right here in the United States.

Blue Star also told me there are things that we can do in Congress that will streamline the Small Business Administration and make it more efficient and effective. I look forward to working with them on that.

There are actions that we can take right now so that Blue Star Power and other businesses just like them can continue to innovate and create jobs in America.

#### NAVAL RESERVIST LEE REINHART

(Mr. QUIGLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago, I stood on this floor and spoke out against the injustice of our Nation's Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy. I told the story of Lee Reinhart, a patriotic constituent of mine who wanted to serve his country in time of war.

Lee had already retired from a 4-year Navy career when our Nation was attacked on September 11. Like many Americans after September 11, Lee wanted to serve his country and again enlisted in the Coast Guard. But 4 months later, he was discharged under Don't Ask, Don't Tell.

Last December my colleagues and I repealed that policy; and Monday, I had the honor of administering the oath to Lee Reinhart as he reenlisted in the Navy.

Dr. Martin Luther King once said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice." Mr. Speaker, I was proud of my country and proud of Lee Reinhart when justice finally arrived for both.

#### JOB CREATION

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, our top priority must be creating jobs.

Yesterday I hosted a job creation conference for my constituents right here in Washington, D.C. Central Coast business owners, development experts, job trainers, and educators shared their experiences about job creation and discussed actions the Federal Government can take to support them. I'm grateful to these dedicated job creators for taking the time and effort to come all the way from California for this important event.

We had a packed day, hearing from policy experts and top White House economic officials about the steps we need to take now to create jobs today and strengthen our economy for tomorrow. Opinions were diverse and spirited, but there was clear consensus on: making it easier for businesses to succeed by lowering taxes and increasing